

C. Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel claims 3 and 29 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 9, 14, 26, 30, 35, 37 and 42 as follows. A complete listing of the claims pending in this application is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A developer regulating member for regulating an amount of developer carried on a developer carrying member, comprising:

a base; and

an elastic member provided on said base and pressed against said developer carrying member, said elastic member having a resistance of  $10^4 \Omega$  or more and a thickness of 300  $\mu\text{m}$  or less,

wherein:

(i) the elastic member contacts the developer carrying member; and

(ii) the elastic member is a polyamide elastomer.

2. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein said elastic member has a thickness of 5 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein said elastic member comprises rubber.

5. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein said base comprises an elastic plate.

6. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1 or 5, wherein said base comprises a metal.

7. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of said elastic member is smaller than that of said base.

8. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein said developer regulating member is urged against said developer carrying member with a pressure of 25 to 35 g/cm.

9. (Currently Amended) A developer regulating member according to claim 1 [[3]], wherein said elastic member contains a polyether.

10. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 9, wherein said elastic member comprises the polyamide and polyether bonded through an ester bond or amide bond.

11. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 1, wherein the developer is a non-magnetic one-component developer.

12. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 11, wherein the developer is toner having shape factors SF-1 of 100 to 180 and SF-2 of 100 to 140.

13. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 11, wherein the developer has a number percentage of toner particles having a weight average particle size of 4  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 30% or less.

14. (Currently Amended) A developer regulating member for regulating the amount of developer carried on a developer carrying member, comprising:

a base; and

an elastic member provided on said base and pressed against said developer carrying member, said elastic member containing a polyamide and having a thickness of 5 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

wherein:

(i) the elastic member contacts the developer carrying member; and

(ii) the elastic member is a polyamide elastomer.

15. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein said elastic member has a thickness of 5 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

16. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein said elastic member comprises rubber.

17. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein said base comprises an elastic plate.

18. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14 or 17, wherein said base comprises a metal.

19. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein the thickness of said elastic member is smaller than that of said base.

20. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein said developer regulating member is urged against said developer carrying member with a pressure of 25 to 35 g/cm.

21. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein said elastic member contains polyether.

22. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 21, wherein said elastic member comprises the polyamide and polyether bonded through an ester bond or amide bond.

23. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 14, wherein the developer is a non-magnetic one-component developer.

24. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 23, wherein the developer is toner having shape factors SF-1 of 100 to 180 and SF-2 of 100 to 140.

25. (Original) A developer regulating member according to claim 23, wherein the developer has a number percentage of toner particles having a weight average particle size of 4  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 30% or less.

26. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus comprising:  
a developer carrying member for carrying a developer, said developer carrying member developing an electrostatic image formed on an image bearing member with the developer; and  
a developer regulating member for regulating an amount of the developer carried on said developer carrying member,  $[[[: in]]]$  which said developer regulating member comprises:

a base,  $[[[:]]]$  and  
an elastic member provided on said base and pressed against said developer carrying member,  $[[[: and]]]$  said elastic member having  $[[[: has]]]$  a resistance of  $10^4 \Omega$  or more and a thickness of 300  $\mu\text{m}$  or less,

wherein:

(i) the elastic member contacts the developer carrying member; and

(ii) the elastic member is a polyamide elastomer.

27. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said developer regulating member has a potential identical with that of said developer carrying member.

28. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said elastic member has a thickness of 5 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus according to claim 26 ~~[[29]]~~, wherein said elastic member comprises rubber.

31. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said base comprises an elastic plate.

32. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26 or 31, wherein said base comprises a metal.

33. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the thickness of said elastic member is smaller than that of said base.

34. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said developer regulating member is urged against said developer carrying member with a pressure of 25 to 35 g/cm.

35. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus according to claim 26 ~~[[29]]~~, wherein said elastic member contains a polyether.

36. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said elastic member comprises the polyamide and polyether bonded through an ester bond or amide bond.

37. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus according to claim 26 ~~[[29]]~~, wherein the developer is a non-magnetic one-component developer.

38. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the developer is toner having shape factors SF-1 of 100 to 180 and SF-2 of 100 to 140.

39. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the developer has a number percentage of toner particles having a weight average particle size of 4  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 30% or less.

40. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said developing apparatus together with said image bearing member is provided in a process cartridge detachably attachable to a body of an image forming apparatus.

41. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said developer carrying member is an elastic member.

42. (Currently Amended) A developing apparatus comprising:  
a developer carrying member for carrying a developer, said developer carrying member developing an electrostatic image formed on an image bearing member with the developer; and

a developer regulating member for regulating an amount of the developer carried on said developer carrying member, which said developer regulating member comprises:

a base, and

an elastic member provided on said base and pressed against said developer carrying member, said elastic member containing a ~~contains~~ polyamide and having a thickness of 5 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

wherein:

(i) the elastic member contacts the developer carrying member; and

(ii) the elastic member is a polyamide elastomer.



43. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said developer regulating member has a potential identical with that of said developer carrying member.

44. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said elastic member has a thickness of 5 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

45. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said elastic member comprises rubber.

46. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said base comprises an elastic plate.

47. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42 or 46, wherein said base comprises a metal.

48. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the thickness of said elastic member is smaller than that of said base.

49. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said developer regulating member is urged against said developer carrying member with a pressure of 25 to 35 g/cm.

50. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said elastic member contains polyether.

51. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 50, wherein said elastic member comprises the polyamide and polyether bonded through an ester bond or amide bond.

52. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the developer is a non-magnetic one-component developer.

53. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 52, wherein the developer is toner having shape factors SF-1 of 100 to 180 and SF-2 of 100 to 140.

54. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 52, wherein the developer has a number percentage of toner particles having a weight average particle size of 4  $\mu\text{m}$  or less of 30% or less.

55. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said developing apparatus together with said image bearing member is provided in a process cartridge detachably attachable to a body of an image forming apparatus.

56. (Original) A developing apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said developer carrying member is an elastic member.